Localilia

BOROUGH OF COWBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1968



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COWBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH 1968

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors, Cowbridge Borough.

I present the Annual Report for 1968 prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Board of Health Circular 1/69.

The Council's scheme for 18 housing units was completed during the year and provides accommodation for the many needy families in the Borough. Thirty-two houses were erected by private enterprise on the Druids Green Estate.

There were no new cases of Tuberculosis and so the number of cases on the Register remain as two.

All main services are provided in the Borough and the absence of any industries in or near the area provides an atmosphere free from pollution.

I wish to thank the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors and Officials for their co-operation during the year.

N.K. CONTRACTOR

Medical Officer of Health

• (1)

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Mains water, electricity and sewers are available throughout the town.

Fire and Ambulance Stations and the local Police Headquarters and Magistrate Court are sited in the Borough.

There are a few small, chiefly family, factories but generally speaking the town is residential with family shops.

Most of the professions and banks have full time offices There are two medical practices with surgeries. There is no fixed child welfare or Ante Natal Clinic but use is made of the County Mobile Clinic.

A list of the factories registered with the Council is as follows:-

- 1. Messrs. D. Brown & Sons Ltd., Printers.

- 1. Ressrs. D. Drown & Sons Edu., Fillders.
 2. Mr. A. Sanders, Boot Repairer.
 3. Messrs. Arthur Jones & Sons Ltd., Builders' Yard.
 4. Messrs. Robert Thomas & Sons Ltd., Builders' Yard.
 5. Messrs. Frank Sanders (Cowbridge) Ltd., Garage Proprietoms.
 6. Messrs. West End Garage.
- 7. Glamorgan County Council Builders Yard.
- 8. Mid-Vale Garage, High Street.

SECTION "A"

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in Acres)	• • • • • •	84)
Number of inhabited houses according to the rate		
Sum represented by the penny rate		. £180)
Rateable value of the district		
Population (Registrar General's estimate)		1.350)

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births

Births Registered - 1968	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Live Births Illegitimate Live Births	16 1	16 2	32 3
	17	18	35

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Still Births Illegitimate Still Births	1 Nil	Nil Nil	1 Nil
	1	Nil	1

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Birth Rate per 1,000 Population

Birth Rate Cowbridge Borough (adjusted) Birth Rate for England and Wales	25.6 16.9
Birth Rate for Administrative County of Glamorgan (adjusted)	16.9
Birth Rate for Urban Areas in the Administrative County	17.0
afant Mortality	
Number of Deaths under 1 year of age Infant Mortality Rate for Cowbridge per 1,000 births Infant Mortality for England and Wales Infant Mortality for Administrative County of Glamorgan Infant Mortality for Urban Areas in Glamorgan Still Births (1)	Nil Nil 18.0 20.8 20.0 43.0

Death Rate per 1,000 Population

Crude Number of Deaths Cowbridge Borough Adjusted Death Rate for Cowbridge Borough	•	8.1 8.4
Crude Death Rate for England and Wales		11.9
Crude Death Rate for Administrative County of		
Glamorgan		12.5
Adjusted Death Rate for Administrative County		
of Glamorgan		14.3
Crude Death Rate for Urban Areas in Glamorgan		12.3
Adjusted Death Rate for Urban Areas in Glamorgan		14.6

Causes of Death 1968

In

Disease	<u>M</u>	ale Fe	male To	tal
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus Malignant Neoplasm Breast Ischaemic Heart Disease Cerebrovascular Disease Bronchitis & Emphysema Pneumonia		- 2 2 1 N	- 1 1 1 il il	2 1 3 3 1
То	tals	8	3 1	1

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES WITHIN THE BOROUGH

(a) Medical Officer of Health

Dr. N.K. Contractor, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health. (Also Medical Officer to the Cardiff and Cowbridge Rural District Councils, and Medical Officer, South East Division, Glamorgan).

(b) Public Health Inspector.

Hubert Thomas, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector. (Also Chief Public Health Inspector, Cowbridge Rural District Council).

Committee Dealing with Health Matters.

The Monthly Meetings of the Council deal with health matters as the occasion demands.

Ambulance Facilities.

An ambulance is stationed at the Ambulance Station, Cowbridge.

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Hospitals

There are no hospitals or nursing homes within the area. Infectious cases are usually admitted to the Isolation Hospital at Cefn Hirgoed or Cardiff.

Medical and surgical cases are admitted to any of the Board's Hospitals in Bridgend, Cardiff, Pontypridd and Llandough.

Maternity cases usually enter the Bridgend or Cardiff Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological specimens are examined at the Ministry of Health's Public Laboratory at Cardiff and chemical analyses are carried out by the County Public Health Laboratory also at Cardiff.

Meals on Wheels

The Borough Council has an arrangement with the Rural District for the twice-weekly delivery of meals to the aged and infirm people in the town. The meals cost the recipient 1/6d. and the deficit is met equally by the County and Borough Councils.

Meals delivered 1966 ... 507 Meals delivered 1967 ... 555 Meals delivered 1968 ... 590

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

A hard water of high bacterial quality is provided by the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board throughout the Borough.

With one exception, all properties in the Borough are connected to these mains.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths in the Borough.

Schools

There are two schools in the area; the Cowbridge Grammar School and Y Bontfaen Elementary School. Both the girls and boys toilets in the latter school are sited some distance from the main school buildings. The County Authorities stated that they proposed to build a replacement school in the near future. An infants classroom was recently provided.

Both schools are provided with water closets and mains water.

Rivers and Streams

The River Thaw passes through the town and no flooding has taken place in the Borough from this source. There was some flooding in the West end of the town during the year, caused by surface water from fields west of the town.

HOUSING

(a) New Council Houses - Six maisonettes, six houses and six flats were completed and occupied during the year. The Council's Estates are as follows:-

Broadway 12
Borough Close 36
Cae Stumpie 32
Church Street & Southgate 37
The Butts and Bush House 4
Town Hall (Caretaker's House) 1
Total 88

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- (b) Private Enterprise Thirty-two houses were completed by private enterprise during 1968.
- (c) <u>Selection of Tenants</u> Tenants for Council Houses are selected by a points system and this works well. The home conditions of applicants are verified by a visit by the Public Health Inspector who reports upon the points awarded to the Council. The final selection is made by the housing committee.
- (d) <u>Demolition or Closure of Unfit Houses</u> One closing order was made during the year and one person rehoused by the Council.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(a) Discretionary Grants. The following grants were approved during the year.

Property	Synopsis of Work	Grant
9, The Limes. 23, Westgate Street. The Bridge. 45, Eastgate Street. 26, High Street. 1, Cardiff Road.	Bathroom, etc. Bathroom, etc. Bathroom, etc. Bathroom, etc. Bathroom, etc. Bathroom, etc.	£400 £400 £400 £400 £400 £400

(b) Standard Grants. Standard grants were made in respect of the following properties:-

3, Croft Terrace.
11a, Westgate Street.
1a, Cardiff Road.

A total of 36 Discretionary and 15 Standard Grants have been granted by the Council since the commencement of the scheme.

The Council were successful in applying for standard grants in respect of three of their own houses at The Butts, Cowbridge.

Plans

The following plans were submitted for approval under the Building Byelaws.

(a)	New houses or flats			Nil
(b)	Conversion of premises into	houses or	flats	3
(c)	New business premises			1
(d)	Additions or alterations to	houses or	business	
			premises	20
(e)	Stores and garages			17
				47

PUBLIC CLEANSING

- (a) Street Cleansing The main highway through the town is cleansed by the Glamorgan County Council Highways Department who employ a mechanical street sweeper for that purpose. The unclassified roads are cleansed by the Borough roadman. Street litter bins are provided at certain points in the town. A part-time cleaner is engaged on Sundays.
- (b) Refuse Bins and Sacks Almost all properties in the town are provided with properly constructed refuse bins. The Public Health Inspector takes informal action for the provision of bins as the occasion demands. The new Council flats and maisonettes are provided with plastic sacks and holders.
- (c) Cesspools There are no cesspools in the Borough.

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(d) <u>House Refuse Collection and Disposal</u> - All food premises have a twice-weekly collection and private dwellings and other premises have a collection once weekly. This service is carried out by the Rural District Council at the cost of the Borough. Disposal is arranged at the District Council's central refuse disposal site at Llanharan.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

The joint sewage disposal works with the adjoining parishes in the Rural District provided in 1956 is already too small to deal with the considerable housing development in the locality. The Consulting Engineers are preparing a scheme for its enlargement. In the meantime, all further development is held up pending the completion of the new scheme.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The air in the Borough is relatively pure there being no factories or works within the area or in the neighbourhood.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

There are no licensed caravan sites within the Borough.

DOMESTIC PESTS

(a) Rodent Control - Arrangements are made with the Rural District Council for the use of their rodent operative and the Borough Council pay an inclusive charge for his services and the material used. Warfarin is now exclusively used and has proved to be satisfactory and reasonably safe to use. There are no farms in the Borough.

Details of the works carried out during 1968 are set out below:-

Type of Property

	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	482	Nil
Total inspected following notification	21	Nil
Number infested by (i) Rats	19	Nil
(ii) Mice	2	Nil
Total properties inspected for rats and/	or	
mice for reasons other than notification	Nil	Nil
Number infested by (i) Rats	Nil	Nil
(ii) Mice	Nil	Nil

(b) Other Pests - The Public Health Inspector gives advice where required on modern methods of eradicating domestic pests.

MILK SUPPLY

All milk sold in the Borough is either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. There are no registered dairies in the town but three retailers, with dairies in other districts, retail milk in the Borough. No samples were taken for Brucella Abortis during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

Routine inspections are made of premises handling food for sale in the Borough and the attention of occupiers is drawn to any infringements of the Hygiene Regulations.

All the licensed premises in the town have satisfactory sanitation connected to the Public Sewer with arrangements for glass washing in or adjacent to the public bars.

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ICE-CREAM

No Ice-cream is manufactured in the Borough. Seven retailers are registered with the Council and all sell Ice-cream manufactured by one or other of the principal manufacturers. Five samples were taken during the year; four were satisfactory and one fairly satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FOODS

There are no public or private slaughterhouses in the Borough. The four butchers purchase their supplies from wholesalers or arrange slaughter at the Public Slaughterhouse at Bridgend where the Public Health Inspector carries out an inspection and marks the meat before it leaves the premises.

On occasions, foods are found to be unfit in grocers and butchers shops. A certificate for the food condemned is given and arrangements made for its removal to a licensed dealer outside the area.

The amount of food condemned during 1968 is as follows:-

Tin Meats 27 lbs.(16 Tins)
Salt 9 lbs.

Jam 24 1bs.

Tin Fish 7 lbs.(30 Tins)

Hind Quarter Ox Beef (Home Killed) 17 lbs.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

(a) Food Premises

Twenty-six food premises in the Borough comply with Regulation 16; and each of the 23 premises to which Regulation 19 applies conform with the Regulations.

(b) Poultry Slaughtering

There are no poultry processing premises in the Borough.

SHEEP AND CATTLE MARKET

The Borough Council own a sheep and cattle market which is leased to two firms of auctioneers. Auctions are held on Mondays throughout the year and also on fair days and occasional sales of store stock. New cattle pens and covered sale ring were provided in 1957. The market has a public water supply and is connected to the public sewer. Electric light is available for loading of vehicles in darkness and a lorry wash and car park is sited at the rear of the market. A new sheep market was commenced during the year, and a cover provided to the cattle pens of the old market.

CINEMAS

There is no cinema within the Borough.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This Act came into force on the 1st August, 1964, and the position at the end of 1968 was as follows:-

Registered Premises

(a) Registered during 1967

Retail Shops Nil
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses Nil
Catering Establishments
open to the Public Nil
Fuel storage premises Nil

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(b) Registered at end of year

Offices	20
Retail Shops	18
Wholesale Shops, Warehous	es 1
Catering Establishments	
open to the Public	7
Fuel Storage premises	Nil
Total	46

(c) Inspections Carried Out

Offices Retail Shops			10 16
Wholesale Sh		Warehouses	1
Catering Est			
open to	the	Public	7
Fuel Storage	Pre	nises	Nil
		Total	34

Total Visits Made 39

(d) Persons Employed

Offices Retail Shops	67 49
Wholesale Departments,	
Warehouses	16
Catering Establishments	
open to the Public	39
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil
Total	171

Males 51. Females 120.

(e) Exemption

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{No}}$ exemptions were applied for and no prosecutions were made during the year.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases

Two cases of Salmonella, one case of Dysentery, one case of Pneumonia, seventeen cases of Measles, one case of Whooping Cough and two cases of Scarletina were notified during the year. All cases were nursed at home. The cases of Salmonella heidleburg occurred in two families returning from holidays in Europe. They were cleared up satisfactorily.

Tuberculosis

The position at January and December 1968 remained unchanged as follows:-

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
4	М	F	М	F	
On Register 1st January, 1968	2		_	_	2
On Register 31st December, 1968	2	_	_	-	2

Housing Conditions

Both of the cases of tuberculosis are satisfactorily housed and it was not necessary to draw the attention of the Council to any matter during the year.

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FACTORIES ACT 1961

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{The}}$ report on the action taken in connection with Factories in the area is set out below:-

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Notices
Factories in which:- Section 1 (Cleanliness)) Section 2 (Overcrowding)) Section 3 (Temperature)) Section 4 (Ventilation)) Section 6 (Drainage of Floors)) are enforced by the Council.	1	Nil	Nil
Factories in which:- Section 7 (Sanitary Conveniences) only is enforced by the Council	6	12	Nil
Total	7	12	Nil

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR 1968.

	Inspections	Preliminary Notices	Statutory Notices
Drainage and Sewerage	23	Nil	Nil
Meat, Foods and Food Premises	57	Nil	Nil
Milk and Dairies	3	Nil	Nil
Housing	93	4	Nil
Public Health Act	12	Nil	Nil
Infectious Diseases	10	Nil	Nil
Factories and Workshops	12	Nil	Nil
Offices and Shops	39	Nil	Nil
House Refuse	49	Nil	Nil
Water Supplies	4	Nil	Nil
Works in Progress	61	Nil	Nil
Miscellaneous	27	Nil	Nil
Total	380	4	Nil